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Mr. Meyer's book is rather a curious sample of social psychology than a useful contribution to a solution of the telephone problem.

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NOTICES

Les industries insalubres. Par FRANÇOIS COREIL ET LÉON NICOLAS. Paris: H. Dunod & E. Pinat, 1908. 8vo, pp. viii+778.

This volume gives a very complete and detailed description of the industries classified as "dangerous" by the French laws, explains the reasons for the danger, the remedy therefore, and the legal requirements which have to be met in each case. Excellent as a guide either for one who has to conform to these requirements, or for one who wishes to know how France is trying to cope with this problem.

Philosophie des Geldes. Von GEORG SIMMEL. 2d enlarged ed. Leipzig: Duncker & Humblot, 1907. 8vo, pp. xiv+585.

There are no changes of importance in the new edition, the author having simply added illustrations and explanations in the hope of further simplifying the exposition.

The Incorporation and Organization of Corporations. By T. G. FROST. 3d ed. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1908. 8vo, pp. xv+909.

The new edition is marked by a considerable increase in size, due to enlarging the Synopsis-Digest of state incorporation acts which is brought down to 1908 and to the addition of some fifty new forms.

Anglo-Chinese Commerce and Diplomacy. By A. J. SARGENT. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1907. 8vo, pp. xii+332.

A careful and scholarly study of Great Britain's commercial relations with China. The author states that inasmuch as British relations with China are no longer the controlling factor in the economic development of the Far East, as they were during the nineteenth century, he does not attempt to analyze or explain the present commercial conditions in this volume, which deals mainly with that century, but offers it as an aid toward the proper understanding of the present through a knowledge of its historical antecedents.

Current Issues. By LESLIE M. SHAW. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1908. 8vo, pp. xi+487.

A collection of articles, addresses, and extracts from letters on a great variety of political and economic questions by the former secretary of the treasury. Mainly of value as representing the views of one active in political life and at the head of the treasury during an interesting period in its administration.

Lawless Wealth. By CHARLES E. RUSSELL. New York: B. W. Dodge & Co., 1908. 8vo, pp. vii+288.

A series of articles, most of which have appeared in *Everybody's Magazine*,

written in a popular style, and designed to show up various unsavory transactions in "high finance" by means of which some of the large fortunes of the day have been acquired. Mr. Ryan and his associates hold the center of the stage, while the traction deals in New York and other cities, the tobacco trust, and the insurance troubles supply the field of action.

History of Economics. Or Economics as a Factor in the Making of History.

By REV. J. A. DEWE. New York: Beuziger Brothers, 1908. 8vo, pp. 334.

This is in fact an elementary textbook on general economic history, and economic thought, the main title notwithstanding, receives but scant and most unsatisfactory treatment. The writer declares that the influences which shape the events of history, may be summed up under three categories: physical surroundings, religion, and economics; and he seeks to show how the first and last named (for religion is rather slighted) have affected history from Greek and Roman times to the present. It would be difficult to say much in favor of the volume. Though of the most elementary character, it shows a lack, not only of scholarship, but even a fair knowledge and grasp of the subject, besides being poorly written, especially as regards arrangement.

Municipal Lessons from Southern Germany. By H. S. LUNN. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1908. 8vo, pp. viii+139.

An account of the visit of the British Municipal Society in 1907 to Frankfort, Nuremberg, Munich, Heidelberg, Mannheim, Königsberg, and Cologne. Except in the case of Frankfort there is little attempt to describe the municipal activities of these places, and the volume is mainly given over to a record of the events, hospitality, and speeches connected with the trip.

Notes on Life Insurance: The Theory of Life Insurance Practically Explained. By EDWARD B. FACKLER. New York: The Spectator Company, 1907. Pp. 205.

This volume is presented as "An elementary treatise on the principles of life insurance, and their technical application. Designed especially for the use of colleges, students, and all persons interested in the subject"—on the whole seemingly a serviceable book—accurate and adequate—though, perhaps, for the ordinary student or reader, somewhat overstocked with mathematical formulæ. And it may fairly be questioned whether life insurance is fortunately described as a "way of capitalizing a man's working powers." To conceive of the insurance company as a joint savings bank, with special and peculiar provisions as to withdrawal would appear to be the more serviceable notion.

Chile. By G. F. SCOTT-ELLIOT. New York, 1907; imported by Charles Scribner's Sons. 8vo, pp. xxviii+363.

This volume in the "South American" series treats of the history, development, natural features, products, commerce, and present condition of Chile. Fully two-thirds of its space is given over to history. The account of economic conditions will be of greatest value to the more general reader rather than the economist.

The Young Malefactor. A Study in Juvenile Delinquency. By THOMAS TRAVIS. New York: T. Y. Crowell & Co., 1908. 8vo, pp. xxviii+243.

A good study centering about the proposition of the Italian criminologists that criminals are physically defective and have the stigmata of crime. The author, after having spent some six years in theoretical and practical investigation, lays little claim to the discovery of new facts, but seeks rather to define more exactly the realms between the opposing schools. His main theses are: "A study of the delinquent with respect to his physical, mental, and ethical conditions shows that at least 90 per cent. and probably 98 per cent. of first court offenders are normal. A study of the delinquent with respect to his economic condition . . . shows that not only all the normal offenses, but some of the morbid or abnormal delinquencies, are the product of his environment. Of the remaining 2 to 10 per cent. of first court offenders, some are insane, others morbid, and some few perhaps atavistic and might be called in a metaphoric sense 'born criminals.' The stigmata theory of the Italian school applies only to a more limited realm than they claim. There are no stigmata of either crime or types of crime, but only of abnormality or degeneracy. The causes of delinquency are many and spring from every department of life, but they focus in such a way that we may name the non- or semi-functionary home as the chief cause. The treatment of the normal delinquent should be primarily the influence of a strong personality exerted in the atmosphere of a home, natural or foster. The abnormal delinquent should be subject to special treatment and isolation until cured, or until he is eliminated." Such conclusions open greater prospects for good from the work of the juvenile courts than ever.

The New Encyclopedia of Social Reform. Edited by W. D. P. BLISS. New York: Funk & Wagnalls, 1908. Large 8vo, pp. 1321.

It is greatly to be wished that one could more often record the appearance of a "new and revised edition" where the revising had been done as thoroughly as it has in this case. Very few of the articles remain in their original form. Up-to-dateness has been the keyword for the revision. Hence many of the articles relating to men and events which have passed from public attention have been considerably trimmed down and some of the more purely historical material omitted. There is also noticeable a tendency to reduce the amount of economic matter, not essentially bound up with social reform, and confine the volume more exclusively to the latter subject. All this excision, though at times detracting from the more permanent value of the volume, has made room for a great deal of new and up-to-date material, such as will greatly increase its usefulness for reference on all present-day social reform.